

### Washington Street Mall

The proposed closure of the section of Washington Street between Thomas and Tarboro Streets was done for several purposes. This section of street begins and ends with a five-way intersection which (presently) is difficult for traffic flow. Another traffic consideration is that the proposed one-way system will work much more efficiently with Washington tying into Albemarle Street rather than intersecting with Thomas Street. Further the closing of this part of the street will allow for the collecting together of several parcels of land including two old street rights-of-way that can be developed in an ideal department store site with parking. The south end of the block could then be developed as a pedestrian mall which would open directly to the store at one end and face the proposed City Hall structure on the other.

This will probably be one of the last projects developed in the central area. Its development will depend on the rate with which the thoroughfare plan is implemented, when the Main Street project is completed, if the City Hall is relocated and the need for commercial space in the north end of the central area.

### Railroad Relocation

The construction costs of the railroad's relocation has been estimated and a figure set. The cost of land to put the railroad on will be an entirely different matter to estimate. The cost can vary considerably and it will only be with a very detailed analysis that a reliable figure can be attained. Although the relocation route is tentatively set to go through an area that is basically undeveloped the land has present value as a farming site and potential value for home sites as Rocky Mount grows east. Further, the cost of actual right-of-way may be equalled or exceeded by damage claims by property owners. What is a farm worth that is split into by a railroad? What is a home worth with a track passing